

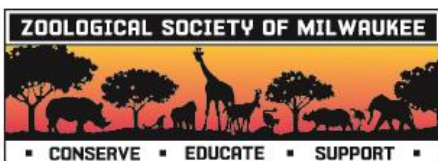


Kohl's Wild Theater Teacher Packet

The K-W-T Jamboree



Photos by ZSM/Richard Brodzeller



What is Kohl's Wild Theater?

Kohl's Wild Theater (KWT) is made possible by a partnership among Kohl's Cares, the Milwaukee County Zoo, and the Zoological Society of Milwaukee. This program provides conservation-themed theater performances using drama, songs, and puppetry to children and their families both at the Milwaukee County Zoo and within our community.

The KWT outreach program, a division of the Zoological Society's Conservation Education Department, offers many different shows about a variety of topics. Our plays and musicals are approximately 30-45 minutes long, are performed by professional actors and include stories about animals and environmental conservation. KWT performances are very similar to attending a play at a traditional theater, but there **will** be many times when the audience can be a part of the show through group participation. There **will not** be time during the performance for the actors to go over curriculum or to review information. After the performance, if time permits, the actors will take a few minutes to answer questions from the audience. **Please note, there are no live animals in KWT shows.**

All of our performances are developed for an elementary school audience. Elements of our shows are entertaining for adults and younger children, but the educational information presented is targeted for a specific age range.

The K-W-T Jamboree

Summary

This 30-minute performance is a compilation of small skits about animals and conservation. The show is designed to be flexible to each venue's needs in terms of performance space, audience size, and show length. The KWT Jamboree typically includes the following skits:

- "Captain Compost"
 - o This silly super hero story teaches about the "power of poop" for growing healthy plants. It includes a simple explanation of how compost can come from herbivore manure, and encourages audience members to make compost from plant material or food waste at home.
- "The Ornate Box Turtle Puppet Show"
 - o This short story is about the Head Start program at the Milwaukee County Zoo. This program helps ornate box turtles in Wisconsin by helping the baby turtles grow before they are released into their natural habitats.
- "The Trashmonster"
 - o This "scary story" teaches the importance of picking up trash and recycling.
- "Wisconsin's *Frozen* Season Review"
 - o In this musical parody of "Frozen", an otter and a salamander teach the audience about the different seasons in Wisconsin, and how Wisconsin animals adapt to survive the changing weather.
- "Ice Is Nice"
 - o This skit features a positive poem about how recycling at home can help protect a polar bear's ice in the Arctic. A simple explanation of the effects of climate change is included. A volunteer from the audience is brought on stage to play the polar bear.

Target Age Range

Most appropriate for grades pre-K to 5 and families with children of all ages.

Theater Etiquette

Before the performance, please take a moment to review good theater etiquette with your students. It is important that students are respectful to the actors during the show. It is a good idea to remind students not to talk during the performance but encourage them to participate when directed to do so by the actors.

For more information on Kohl's Wild Theater, you can see our website at wildtheater.org or email us at kwt@zoosociety.org.